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AMERICA IN TRANSITION

ANNCR: NEWS ANALYST FRED GALVAN DISCUSSES A KEY ASPECT OF THE AFTERMATH OF TUESDAY'S NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

VOICE: THE TUMULT AND SOUL-SEARCHING OF A GRUELLING POLITICAL CAMPAIGN AND NATIONAL ELECTIONS ARE OVER. AND BOTH WINNING AND LOSING CANDIDATES HAVE TALKED ABOUT UNIFYING THE COUNTRY AND A SMOOTH TRANSITION FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT TO HIS SUCCESSOR. PRESIDENT FORD AND PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER ARE HARD AT WORK ALREADY AND IN WASHINGTON AND PLAINS, GEORGIA A KEY WORD CHARACTERIZES THE EFFORT NOW GOING ON--CONTINUITY.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INCUMBENT PRESIDENT SAYS MISTER FORD WILL CONTINUE TO WORK THE REST OF THIS WEEK ON PENDING BUSINESS--WAYS TO HOLD DOWN GOVERNMENT SPENDING TO CURB INFLATION AND TO STIMULATE THE NATIONAL JOB MARKET. ON THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, PRESIDENT FORD IS SAID TO BE EXPLORING WAYS TO STIMULATE FURTHER PROGRESS ON SUCH ISSUES AS STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THERE ARE, AFTER ALL, ALMOST TWO MONTHS TO GO BEFORE MR. CARTER'S INAUGURATION.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PRESIDENT AND HIS AIDES ARE PREPARING TO DO ALL THEY CAN TO INSURE THAT PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER BEGINS HIS TERM JANUARY TWENTIETH AS SMOOTHLY AND EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE.

IN PLAINS, GEORGIA, MR. CARTER IS STUDYING A THICK BOOK CONTAINING SOME FIFTY PAPERS ON POSSIBLE INITIATIVES HE CAN TAKE WHEN HE ASSUMES OFFICE. THE PAPERS DEAL WITH SUCH PROBLEMS AS ENERGY DEVELOPMENT, CREATING MORE JOBS AND CONTROL OF INFLATION. THE STUDIES ALSO COVER A WHOLE RANGE OF FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS--RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET-UNION, WITH CHINA, WITH AMERICA'S ALLIES IN EUROPE, ASIA, LATIN AMERICA AND -- AGAIN -- POSSIBLE

FORMULAS FOR STIMULATING PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA. THE THICK BOOK OF POLICY SUGGESTIONS WAS PREPARED BY A STAFF OF EXPERTS APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER LAST JULY. BY LAW, HE NOW CAN DRAW ON A TWO MILLION DOLLAR FUND SET UP BY CONGRESS TO NAME SPECIALISTS WHO WILL WORK WITH CABINET DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES DURING THE TRANSITION.

BOTH PRESIDENT FORD AND PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER ON WEDNESDAY GAVE INDICATIONS THAT SET THE TONE OF THE EFFORTS BY BOTH DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION.

IN HIS MESSAGE TO MISTER CARTER, CONCEDING HIS ELECTORAL DEFEAT, PRESIDENT FORD PLEDGED THE COOPERATION OF HIS ADMINISTRATION IN THE TRANSITION EFFORT. AND HE SAID: "I BELIEVE THAT WE MUST NOW PUT THE DIVISIONS OF THE CAMPAIGN BEHIND US AND UNITED THE COUNTRY ONCE AGAIN IN THE COMMON PURSUIT OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY." MISTER CARTER, IN HIS OWN STATEMENT WEDNESDAY, CALLED PRESIDENT FORD'S MESSAGE "CHARACTERISTICALLY GRACIOUS." AND HE, TOO, EMPHASIZED THE THEME OF UNITY WHEN HE SAID: "ONE OF THE FIRST TASKS FACING ANY NEW PRESIDENT IS THE UNIFICATION OF OUR COUNTRY AFTER A CLOSE AND HARD-FOUGHT ELECTION."

THE TONE OF BOTH MESSAGES IN THE VIEW OF MANY OBSERVERS WAS ONE OF MODERATION AND CIVILITY. AND IT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF BOTH MEN AS REVEALED IN THEIR DEBATES AND MOST OF THEIR CAMPAIGNING. COMMENTING ON ONE OF THEM--PRESIDENT FORD'S MESSAGE--THE NEW YORK TIMES SAYS: "THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY; AND IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT ALL AMERICANS WHO VALUE THAT DEMOCRACY CAN BE COUNTED ON TO GREET THE NEW ADMINISTRATION."

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